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Europe, Experiments in America. Mammals. Mixed Groups of Animals. Birds: Experiments in Europe, Experiments in Africa, Experiments in Asia, Experiments in America, Experiments by Judd and Beal. Summary. This whole inquiry covers 83 pages.

Mr. McAtee calls attention to the fact that "The selectionist theories regarding the significance and the causes of production of the so-called warning, mimicking, and cryptic coloration long preceded a knowledge of the food preferences of insectivorous animals sufficient to warrant such speculation," and that knowledge of the food preferences "is still almost entirely lacking for many parts of the world—including the Amazon valley, which is the home of the brightly colored Heliconiid butterflies and their mimics that suggested the mimicry theory to H. W. Bates."

After a careful examination of the experiments which have been performed and reported in literature the author is led to say, "from the writer's point of view, three main conclusions regarding the experimental tests of the efficiency of protective adaptations against natural enemies are unavoidable: (1) The experiments are very inconsistent; (2) they have been misinterpreted; and (3) they are not trustworthy guides to behavior under natural conditions. Having no certain value in themselves, they must be checked up with definite knowledge of the natural food habits. This information is obtained by collecting animals with freshly captured prey and by examination of pellets, castings, and the contents of stomachs or other portions of the alimentary canal. There is no possibility of going back of such evidence on the choice of food, nor is there any need of so doing.

"Since this evidence is sufficient in itself, and since experimental data must be supported by it to be worthy of any consideration, why perform the experiments? The same time expended in collecting trustworthy data regarding the natural food habits of animals would bring much greater returns, and the result would be truth, not imaginative inferences from abnormal behavior." L. J.

Food of Some Well-known Birds of Forest, Farm, and Garden. By F. E. L. Beal and W. L. McAtee, Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers' Bulletin No. 506. Issued September 25, 1912.

This Bulletin follows Bulletin No. 54, treating of birds that are of equal importance with those treated in the former Bulletin, but the species are less widely distributed, or decidedly local in distribution. They are: Three-toed Woodpeckers, California Woodpecker, Lewis Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Sapsuckers, Hummingbirds, Arkansas Kingbird, Western Yellow-bellied Fly-

catcher, Horned Lark, Chipping Sparrow, Junco or Snowbird, White-crowned Sparrow, Southern Butcher Bird, Audubon Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

We note that ten of the sixteen figures are from the pencil of Robert J. Sim. They are of unusual excellence. Too much cannot be said in commendation of the work which this paper represents. The data gathered in these investigations will surely furnish incontrovertible data for inquiries such as Mr. MaAtee has begun in a paper reviewed elsewhere in this number. L. J.

On the Collection of Zoölogical Specimens for the Victoria Memorial Museum, Zoölogy. By P. A. Taverner. Canada, Department of Mines, Geological Survey. No. 1234, 1912.

In this little pocket pamphlet of 56 pages Mr. Taverner has not only condensed a complete compendium for collectors of all sorts of zoölogical material with which a great museum should be concerned, but he also gives valuable directions for shipping specimens, methods of collecting, ammunition, other equipment, conduct in the field, and all that goes with the preservation of specimens. In short, it is such a pamphlet as one would find of great value who goes out into the woods and fields for any purpose, and should stimulate those not otherwise inclined to gather specimens to do so. Mr. Taverner's plea to the individual for assistance in building up the Victoria Memorial Museum ought to stir every loyal Canadian to such action as will result in the building of a museum worthy of the wealth and intelligence of Canada. L. J.

Food of Our More Important Flycatchers. By F. E. L. Beal, Assistant, Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Survey — Bulletin No. 44. Issued September 19, 1912.

The species here treated are, the Kingbird, Arkansas Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, and Black Phoebe. Each is illustrated by the inimitable colored plates of Louis Agassiz Fuertes. The Bulletin covers sixty-six and a half pages. The food of each of the five species is treated in great detail. It is another of the many invaluable studies of the food of our birds. L. J.

Pocket List of Birds of Eastern Massachusetts. Albert P. Morse, Curator of National History. Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass. Published by the Peabody Academy of Science, Salem, Mass. 1912.

"The purpose of this little work is to provide the bird-student in eastern Massachusetts with a handy pocket reminder of 'what, when, and where' to seek." . . . "The List contains 390 species and subspecies. Of these three are probably or certainly extinct; sev-